

DG. 71A-38

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties number: DG: 71A-38

Name: MD 450 over Conrail

The bridge referenced herein was inventoried by the Maryland State Highway Administration as part of the Historic Bridge Inventory, and SHA provided the Trust with eligibility determinations in February 2001. The Trust accepted the Historic Bridge Inventory on April 3, 2001. The bridge received the following determination of eligibility.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST	
Eligibility Recommended <u>X</u>	Eligibility Not Recommended _____
Criteria: <u>  </u> A <u>  </u> B <u>X</u> C <u>  </u> D Considerations: <u>  </u> A <u>  </u> B <u>  </u> C <u>  </u> D <u>  </u> E <u>  </u> F <u>  </u> G <u>  </u> None	
Comments: _____	
Reviewer, OPS: <u>Anne E. Bruder</u>	Date: <u>3 April 2001</u>
Reviewer, NR Program: <u>Peter E. Kurtze</u>	Date: <u>3 April 2001</u>

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Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties  
Historic Bridge Inventory  
Maryland State Highway Administration  
Maryland Historical Trust

PG: 71A-38  
MHT Number PG: 71-38

Name and SHA No. 16017 over Conrail

**Location:**

Street/Road Name and Number: Maryland Route 450 over Conrail

City/Town: Bowie Vicinity   

County: Prince George's

Ownership:   X State   County   Municipal   Other

This bridge projects over:   Road   X Railway   Water   Land

Is the bridge located within a designated district:   yes   X no

  NR listed district   NR determined eligible district

  locally designated   other

Name of District                                   

**Bridge Type:**

  Timber Bridge  
  Beam Bridge   Truss-Covered   Trestle  
  Timber-and-Concrete

  Stone Arch

  Metal Truss

  Movable Bridge  
  Swing   Bascule Single Leaf   Bascule Multiple Leaf  
  Vertical Lift   Retractable   Pontoon

  X Metal Girder  
  Rolled Girder   Rolled Girder Concrete Encased  
  Plate Girder   X Plate Girder Concrete Encased

  Metal Suspension

  Metal Arch

☐ Metal Cantilever

☒ Concrete

☐ Concrete Arch ☐ Concrete Slab ☒ Concrete Beam

☐ Rigid Frame

☐ Other Type Name \_\_\_\_\_

### **Description:**

#### **Describe Setting:**

Bridge No. 16017 carries traffic east-west on Maryland Route 450 over Conrail Railroad. The bridge carries traffic over two sets of railroad tracks. The east track is in poor condition and has not been used recently. The west approach roadway is curved and sight distance is limited. Multiple overhead utility lines are visible paralleling the bridge. Commercial buildings are visible on the West side of the bridge. The areas on both sides of the bridge are covered in light forest growth, approximately 30-50 years old.

#### **Describe Superstructure and Substructure:**

Bridge No. 16017 is a three span bridge consisting of two 31'6" cast in place reinforced concrete T-beam spans, and one 45' concrete encased thru plate girder span. The floor system consists of a 24'0" roadway and two 6" curbs of reinforced concrete. This bridge was built by Maryland State Roads Commission in 1926. The parapets are solid cast reinforced concrete. The east abutment is a cast in place reinforced concrete spill-thru abutments on spread footings set 18'± below bridge seat. The west abutment is a cast in place reinforced concrete stub type on spread footings set 4'± below bridge seat. The Intermediate supports consist of two cast in place reinforced concrete 3 column piers on spread footings set 28'± below bridge seat.

A 1988 inspection report indicates that both backwalls had horizontal cracking and surface spall. The west abutment face had a 1/4" open vertical crack under beam three, pier columns had random vertical cracking and pier caps have horizontal cracking with efflorescence, and rebar was exposed in the floor beams of span two.

#### **Discuss Major Alterations:**

Details of repairs to the structure are scanty. In 1992, 30% of the deck was patched. In 1993 undermined areas of the west abutment were filled, and bituminous curbing was installed on the northwest slope to direct rainwater from the west abutment. The different abutment types indicates that one of the abutments was replaced and may represent an episode of major alteration.

In the future a new bridge will be built as part of the Maryland Route 450 relocation project at a new location over Conrail, however the old bridge (16017) is to remain in service.

**History:****When Built:** 1926**Why Built:** Local transportation needs**Who Built:** Maryland State Roads Commission, W.C. Hopkins**Why Altered:** Not applicable**Was this bridge built as part of an organized bridge building campaign:** Yes**Surveyor Analysis:****This bridge may have NR significance for association with:**☐ A Events    ☐ Person☒ C Engineering/Architectural**Was this bridge constructed in response to significant events in Maryland or local history:**

It is unknown whether this bridge was constructed in response to significant events in Maryland or local history.

In 1968 the railroad tracks now owned by Conrail were owned by Pennsylvania Central. There may be a stone cobble wingwall in existence under the west abutment. This may be a form of erosion control or it may be a portion of an older bridge in the same location.

**When the bridge was built and/or given a major alteration, did it have a significant impact on the growth and development of the area?**

It is unknown whether the construction and/or alteration of this bridge has had significant impact on the growth and development of the area.

**Is the bridge located in an area which may be eligible for historic designation and would the bridge add to or detract from historic and visual character of the possible district?**

No, this bridge does not appear to be located in an area which may be eligible for historic designation.

**Is the bridge a significant example of its type?**

This bridge may be a significant example of its type.

**Does the bridge retain integrity of the important elements described in the Context Addendum?**

Yes, this bridge appears to retain the integrity of most of its character defining elements. One of its abutments may have been replaced however, the concrete parapets the bridge deck, and a plaque indicating the year of construction indicates that most of this bridge appears to retain integrity.

**Should this bridge be given further study before significance analysis is made and Why?**

Further research of this bridge is unnecessary. This bridge is eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

**Bibliography:**

Greiner, Inc.

1995 Maryland Inventory of Historic Bridges.

Spero, P.A.C. & Company, and Louis Berger & Associates

1994 Historic Bridges in Maryland: Historic Bridge Context.

State Highway Administration

v.d. Bridge Inspection Files.

United States Geological Survey

1965 7.5' Lanham Quadrangle, photorevised 1979.

**Surveyor:**

**Name:** Jason D. Moser **Date:** September 1995

**Organization:** State Highway Admin. **Telephone:** (410) 321-2213

**Address:** 2323 West Joppa Road Brooklandville, MD 21022

Maryland Historic Highway Bridges  
Bridge Type Metal Girder  
Map F-12 Bowie PG 71A-38  
County Prince George's  
Bridge # and name 16017/MD 450 over  
Conrail





Inventory # PG: 71-38

Name 16017-MD 450 OVER CONRAIL

County/State PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY, MD

Name of Photographer WALLY KING

Date 1/95

Location of Negative SHA

Description	EAST APPROACH LOOKING WEST
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Number 8 of 23  
1 5

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Inventory # PG:71-38

Name 16017-MD 450 OVER CONRAIL

County/State PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY/MD

Name of Photographer WALLY KING

Date 1/95

Location of Negative SHA

Description WEST APPROACH LOOKING EAST

Number 92 of 23

2011-11-11 11:54:05 080050 4611 11-11-11

16017



Inventory # PG: 71-38

Name 16017- MID 450 OVER CONRAIL  
County/State PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY/MD  
Name of Photographer WALLY KING  
Date 1/95

Location of Negative SHA

Description PLAQUE - "COLLINGTON  
BRIDGE"

Number 10 of 235

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Inventory # PG:71-38

Name 16017-MD 450 OVER CONRAIL  
County/State PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY  
Name of Photographer WALLY KING  
Date 1/95

Location of Negative SHA

Description SOUTH ELEVATION  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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Number 4 of 255

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Inventory # PG171-38

Name 16017- MD450 OVER CONRAIL

County/State PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY/MD

Name of Photographer WALLY KING

Date 1/95

Location of Negative SWA

Description NORTH ELEVATION

Number 5 of 235

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